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## THE NEW CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE

It is a tribute to the tact and abilities of John A. McCone that he was unanimously approved by the Senate armed services committee as director of the Central Intelligence agency. The unanimity of approval was unusual for two reasons: First, Mr. McCone is a Republican appointed to one of the most vital posts in a Democratic administration; second, the CIA itself, with its undercover operations, is a controversial organization which has often been criticized by Congress.

It is Mr. McCone's task to preside over a world-wide intelligence network which has at its disposal very large, if unknown, sums of money. He and his organization do not make policy, but they are charged with providing and evaluating the information upon which major policy in international affairs is based.

Mr. McCone had served the Eisenhower administration with distinction as chairman of the Atomic Energy commission for almost three years. His discretion in this equally important post ended an open breach with influential Democrats on the joint congressional committee on atomic energy. His knowledge gained in the AEC of nuclear and missile capacities should prove of great value in analyzing the strategic factors which govern policy in the international arena.

Mr. McCone's success as an engineer in charge of large steel, construction, and shipbuilding operations demonstrates his capacity to administer an organization which in scope and delicacy of activity is

among the most demanding in the government. The only opposition to the appointment has come from "liberals" who were aroused by Mr. McCone's early recognition that the nuclear test moratorium was unrealistic and was tying our hands. Khrushchev's blatant denunciation of the voluntary ban proved how right Mr. McCone was on that. His presence should stand him in good stead in the CIA.